



# City of Ridgecrest

September 2014



Nov. 15-16, 2014 Ridgecrest Petroglyph Festival Flyer

**RIDGECREST PETROGLYPH FESTIVAL**

**FREE ADMISSION!** **SAT. NOV 15**  
**Balsam Street Fair 10am-4pm**  
 Wine Walk and Entertainment 6-9pm - \$20

**SAT & SUN NOV 15 & 16**  
**Inter-Tribal Powwow** **FREE ADMISSION!**  
 4th Annual Ridgecrest Traditional Cherokee Hog Fry  
 ARTS & CRAFTS • STORYTELLING • FOOD • GAMES  
 SAT. NOV. 15 10AM - 6PM • SUN. NOV 16 10AM-3PM  
 FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION [WWW.RPFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.RPFESTIVAL.COM)  
 OR CALL RIDGECREST AREA CVB (760) 375-8202

**ATTENTION VETERANS!**  
 AND ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORT VETERANS

Get On Board For The **City of Ridgecrest Veterans Stand Down 2014**  
 FREE Service and Support Fair for Veterans and Their Families!

**SERVICES INCLUDE:**  
 Food • Clothing • Hair Cuts  
 Veteran Benefits/Counseling  
 Public Assistance  
 VA Health Screenings  
 VA Counseling  
 Employment

**PARTIAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:**  
 Airstreams Renewables, Inc. • Union Bank  
 Jacobs Technology • Snow Orthodontics  
 VFW Ship 4084 • Alta One Federal Credit Union  
 Soldiers Angels • Greater Los Angeles VA Healthcare  
 American Legion 684 • Small Business Development  
 Kern County Veterans Service Department  
 Fleet & Family Support - NAWA China Lake  
 Department of Vocational Rehabilitation  
 Ridgecrest EDD Career Service Center

**AND MORE!**

Friday, September 26, 2014 • 9am to 2pm • Kerr McGee Center  
 100 West California Avenue • Ridgecrest, CA 93555

To Volunteer, Donate or For More Information, Please Call  
 Ridgecrest Veteran Advisory Committee Members  
 Jimmy Brantley 760-793-8911 • Nick Coy 760-608-1484  
 Richard Freeman 909-225-9223  
[www.facebook.com/CityOfRidgecrestVeteransAdvisoryCommittee](http://www.facebook.com/CityOfRidgecrestVeteransAdvisoryCommittee) • [VeteransOfRidgecrestCA@yahoo.com](mailto:VeteransOfRidgecrestCA@yahoo.com)

Sept. 27, 2014 Veterans Stand Down



Sept. 6, 2014 Parade of 1000 Flags



## From the City Manager's Desk....

### **The City Council approved a Commitment Letter to participate in the Fresno State Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) East Kern County Economic Development Program.**

At the last regular council meeting on August 20, 2014, Mr. Ismael Herrera, an Associate Director at the OCED, presented an outline of an economic development program available to the City. He explained to the Council what was required for participation in the program. Specifically, He indicated that the City should provide a letter of commitment, sources of cash or in-kind match, and identification of a meeting place.

At the City Council meeting of September 17, 2014, a template letter received from Mr. Herrera was reviewed by Council. It not only indicated commitment and support, but also, intended contributions for hosting a number of EDAC meetings. In his cover email, he suggested amounts to cover these costs. Alternatively, staff indicated the amount could be reduced, if the City provided the meeting place. Specifically, the suggested amount for hosting the 9 meetings is \$5400 based on using a local commercial facility. Alternatively, the City could provide a meeting space for an in-kind value of \$4000. Additionally, Mr. Herrera suggested contributing toward a catered dinner for 75-100 participants at the meetings. This cost would be a cash match. The amount was not specific. A staff recommendation for a contribution of \$3500, based on a boxed lunch scenario, was presented to Council. Following a thorough discussion, the Council decided to approve the commitment letter indicating an in-kind participation in the amount of \$4000 and a cash contribution amount of \$3500.



### **City Council Approved a Revision Of Countywide Siting Element Of The Kern County And Incorporated Cities Integrated Waste Management Plan**

City of Ridgecrest received a letter dated August 4, 2014 (Attachment A) requesting to set a public hearing for consideration of the proposed revision of the Countywide Siting Element (CSE) of the Kern County and Incorporated Cities Integrated Waste Management Plan. The process for revising the CSE requires review and comment by the Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee Local Task Force (LTF) prior to the incorporated cities approval of the revision. The Local Task Force (LTF) reviewed and considered the proposed revision of the CSE at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 8, 2014. The LTF written comment was attached for City Council review in accordance with CCR §18781 (a)(2).

The proposed revision will update the CSE to:

- Include a description of areas to be used for the development of adequate engineered municipal solid waste (EMSW) conversion, as required by Public Resources Code.
- Ensure CSE consistency with the recent amendment to the Kern County General Plan, Appendix F, as required by California Government Code.
- Include updated information from the 2013 Kern County Infrastructure Plan, prepared by the Kern County Waste Management Department.
- Update the descriptions and remaining capacity of existing solid waste facilities.
- Update other text to reflect changes that have been made since the previous CSE revision in 2004.

Public Resources Code (PRC) requires that revisions to the CSE also be approved by "a majority of the cities within the county which contain a majority of the population." Thus, the Kern County Waste Management Department (KCWMD) has requested consideration of the revised CSE. After hearing the presentation by Ms. Nancy Ewert, a Kern County Staff spokesperson, the Council approved the revision of the Countywide Siting Element.



## Continued From the City Manager's Desk....

### City Council approved the Speed Zone Survey for segments of Norma and Downs Streets

For speed limits to be enforceable an Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&T survey) must have been conducted within 7 years. The City's E&T surveys for Norma Street expired. Therefore, the related speed limits were unenforceable.

The California Vehicle Code (CVC) allows cities to establish speed zones based on an E&T survey. The E&T survey must have been completed within 7 years for the speed limit in the speed zone to be enforceable. Because the E&T surveys had expired, a traffic consultant, H&F, was selected to perform the speed zone surveys. The complete results of the surveys are presented in the Speed Zone Survey Report. The summary of the results is shown below.

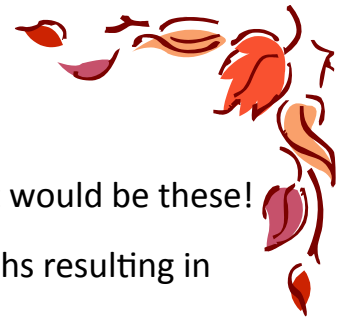
Following Council discussion and public comments, the City Council approved the Speed Zone Survey.

<b>TABLE 1</b>					
<b>2013 SPOT SPEED STUDY</b>					
<b>CITY OF RIDGECREST</b>					
<b>STUDY LOCATIONS</b> Hourly Traffic Volumes Downs Street between	<b>Posted Speed Limit (mph)</b>	<b>85<sup>TH</sup> Percentile Speed (mph)</b>	<b>50<sup>TH</sup> Percentile Speed (mph)</b>	<b>Speed change (mph)</b>	<b>Recommended Speed Limit (mph)</b>
1 Upjohn Avenue and 312	<b>40</b>	40.28	36.19	0	<b>40</b>
Ridgecrest Boulevard					
Norma Street between					
2 Ridgecrest Boulevard 311	<b>25</b>	37.22	30.58	5	<b>30</b>
and Argus Avenue					
Norma Street between					
3 Argus Avenue and 383	<b>25</b>	36.99	30.41	5	<b>30</b>
Las Flores Avenue					





## More Jobs – More Retail! ...



If we could only report our progress in four words this month it would be these!

Economic Development has been extremely busy over the last several months resulting in great progress during this period.

The efforts of the division have resulted in the execution of two local start up business agreements which could yield over 500 jobs within a five year period.

A third firm's agreement was executed for handling the city's outreach and marketing efforts to the industrial market. This firm's main efforts center on bringing existing operating industries to the city which potentially includes jobs and a new tax base to the city.

Finally contract discussions are ongoing for a fourth firm to bring an alternative energy bio waste refinery to the city which could result again in many new jobs and a new income source to the city.

The retail sector has seen the results of the division's outreach efforts bringing several new retail stores to the city including Marshall, Fabulous Footwear and our latest new store, Joann's.

New restaurants are in site location discussions - some of which are brand names you will all know! - we hope to be able to announce these in next month's report. A new RETAIL SECTOR UPDATE AND ACTION PLAN has been developed resulting in new demographic information being produced which will be placed on the city's website in the next few weeks.

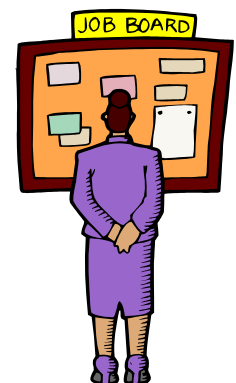
Plans are under way to attend the Southern California division of International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC ) Conference where the city will participate in one-on-one meetings with both new Retailers and Retail developers in efforts to both fill existing empty retail space and develop new retail centers.

Finally, the city is still in discussions with Wal-Mart for the construction of a new Super Center; with both on-site and off-site final engineering planning coming close to finalization.

The division is continuing to deal with the RDA wind-down supporting the Successor Agency in dealing with Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) and Tax Allocation Refunding Bonds (TAB) funds and their associated administrative needs.

The division has also supported other departments in their land acquisition needs. Other activities have included Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (RACVB) support for the new city entry sign off of Hwy 395, Indian Wells Valley Economic Development Corporation (IWVEDC) / China Lake Alliance board support , Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce board support, and East Kern Economic Development Corporation working Group support to list a few.

It been a very successful month of **More Jobs and More Retail** for the City of Ridgecrest!!



# City of Ridgecrest

## Retail Development Opportunity

NWC China Lake Boulevard & Bowman Road



~3.9 Acres Owned by PAM Ridgecrest Venture LLC

### FEATURES:

- Strong visibility on main arterial China Lake Blvd., adjacent to regional retail center
- Suitable for retail / restaurant pad users
- Restaurant and other retailer voids in trade area
- Traffic counts (2007): 15,961 ADT China Lake & Bowman Rd.

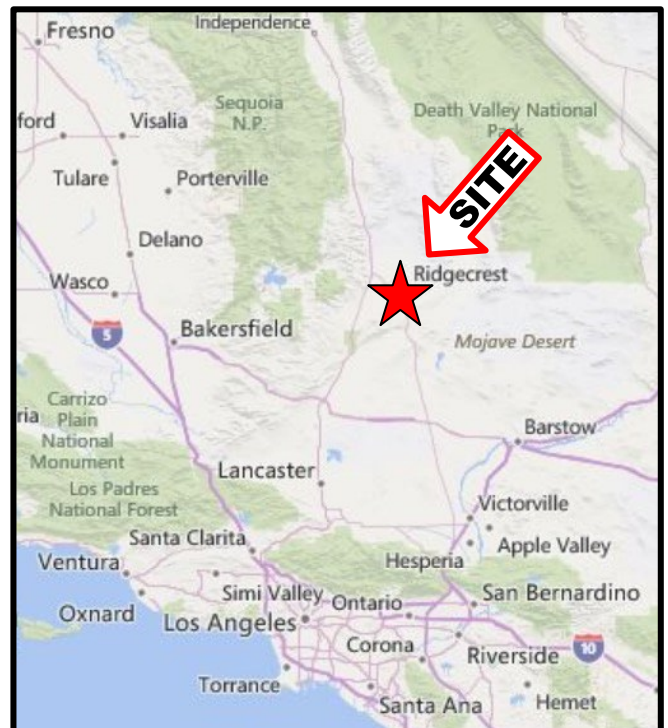
### DEMOGRAPHICS (ESRI):

	1 Mile	3 Mile	5 Mile
2014 Population	6,972	28,730	30,716
Households	2,756	11,323	12,059
Avg. HH Inc.	\$67,730	\$70,058	\$70,094

### CONTACT US FOR A TRADE AREA TOUR:

Ken K. Hira  
Senior Vice President  
Kosmont Companies  
(949) 226-0288  
[khira@kosmont.com](mailto:khira@kosmont.com)

Gary Parsons  
Economic Development Manager  
City of Ridgecrest  
(760) 499-5061  
[gparsons@ridgecrest-ca.gov](mailto:gparsons@ridgecrest-ca.gov)



Do not rely on any measurements or placements of any improvements depicted or shown herein, as they are estimates only. The information above has been obtained from sources believed reliable. While we do not doubt its accuracy, we have not verified the data and make no guarantee, warranty or representations whatsoever. It is your responsibility to independently confirm its accuracy and completeness. Any projections, opinions, assumptions or estimates used are for example only and do not represent the current or future performance of the property. The value of this transaction to you depends on tax, and other factors, which should be evaluated by your tax, financial and legal advisors. You and your advisors should conduct a careful, independent investigation of the property to determine to your satisfaction the suitability of the property for your needs. Development entitlements subject to City approval.





# RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following tables reflect Part 1 Crime Data, of offenses reported to the Ridgecrest Police Department in January through December. The data listed below is collected from our Records Management System, and then sorted into Part 1 categories per Department of Justice reporting standards.

## 2014 Monthly Part 1 Crime Report

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	year to date % chg 2014/2013
<b>2014</b>														
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100%
Rape	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	4	-43%
Robbery	1	2	0	0	2	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	9	-44%
Aggravated Assault	9	11	14	9	6	9	2	6	0	0	0	0	66	-24%
Simple Assault	23	14	18	21	14	14	15	24	0	0	0	0	143	-17%
Burglary	15	12	5	11	7	16	23	14	0	0	0	0	103	-28%
Larceny	27	18	19	22	24	22	30	25	0	0	0	0	187	-10%
Auto Theft	5	4	0	5	5	5	7	1	0	0	0	0	32	7%
Arson	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	-63%
<b>Total Part One</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>-19%</b>
<b>% Change Same Month Previous Year</b>	<b>-18%</b>	<b>-18%</b>	<b>-32%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>-36%</b>	<b>-13%</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>-20%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>		



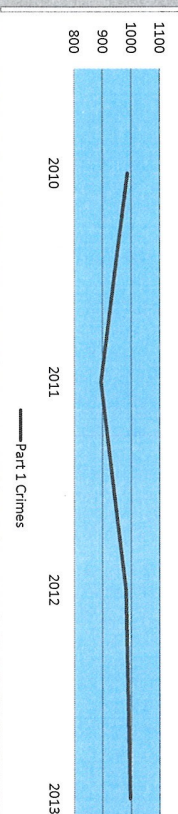
# Ridgecrest Police Department Statistics

Aug 2014

## Crime

	Monthly Comparison		Year To Date			
	Aug 13	Aug 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Violent Crime</b>	41	33	-20%	288	225	-22%
Murder	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%
Rape	0	2	200%	7	4	-43%
Robbery	3	1	-67%	16	9	-44%
Assault	37	30	-19%	264	212	-20%
<b>Property Crime</b>	50	40	-20%	390	325	-17%
Burglary	22	14	-36%	145	103	-29%
Larceny	25	25	0%	207	188	-9%
Auto Theft	3	1	-67%	30	32	7%
Arson	0	0	0%	8	2	-75%
<b>Part 1 Crimes</b>	91	73	-20%	671	551	-18%

## Part 1 Crimes



## Personnel

	Allocated	Filled	Vacant
<b>Total</b>	49	49	0
Sworn	32	32	0
Professional Staff	17	17	0
<b>Vacant Positions</b>			

## Investigation

	Monthly		Year To Date			
	Aug 13	Aug 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>News Cases</b>	322	146	-55%	2746	1958	-29%
Cleared DA or Other	267	136	-49%	1297	751	-42%
Arrests	23	45	96%	159	224	41%
Inactivated	12	44	267%	407	346	-15%
Active	164	59	-64%	2892	587	-80%

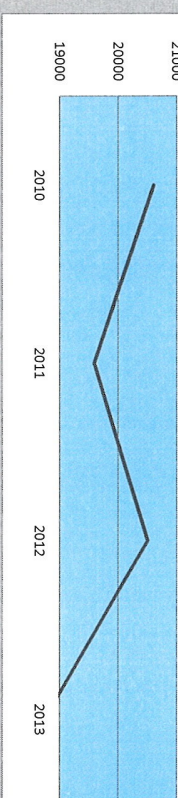
## K-9 Deploy

	Monthly		Year To Date			
	Aug 13	Aug 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Deployments</b>	4	8	100%	41	32	-22%
Apprehensions	2	0	-100%	4	2	-50%
Building Searches	0	2	200%	17	4	-76%
Vehicle Searches	2	3	50%	13	11	-15%
Drug Finds	0	2	200%	5	5	0%

## Performance Measures

	Monthly Comparison		Year To Date			
	Aug 13	Aug 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Patrol Activity</b>						
Total Incidents	2556	2821	10%	20481	21116	3%
Calls for Service	1616	1822	13%	12706	12394	-2%
Officer Initiated Incidents	940	999	6%	7765	8722	12%
Traffic Stops	369	343	-7%	2657	3567	34%
Other OIA Incidents	571	656	15%	5128	5155	1%
<b>Reports Taken</b>	405	405	0%	2958	2943	-1%
<b>Total Arrests</b>	234	241	3%	1701	1755	3%
Felony Arrests	68	62	-9%	468	419	-10%
Juvenile Arrests	11	12	9%	137	106	-23%
Drug Related	48	49	2%	275	347	26%

## Calls for Service



## Traffic

	Monthly Comparison		Year To Date			
	Aug 13	Aug 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
<b>Citations</b>						
Moving	57	42	-26%	418	502	20%
Non-Moving	7	2	-71%	64	53	-17%
RMC Violation	6	15	150%	96	66	-31%
<b>Collisions</b>						
Fatal	30	16	-47%	161	134	-17%
Injury	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Non-Injury	8	4	-50%	31	33	6%
DUI Related	19	12	-37%	118	92	-22%
	3	0	-100%	12	9	-25%

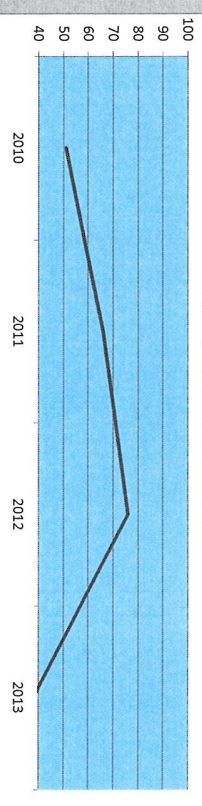
### Top 5 Collision Intersections YTD

- Las Flores Ave./N. Norma St.
- Drummond Ave./N. China Lake Blvd.
- N. China Lake Blvd./French Ave.
- S. China Lake Blvd./Bowman Rd.
- N. Downs St./Great Ave.

### Top 5 PCFs YTD

- Unsafe turning movement
- Unsafe speed
- Fail to stop at red light
- Fail to yield at intersect w/stop sign
- Failure to yield

## Injury Traffic Collisions





# **Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Affairs**



## **Parks**

The condition of our city parks continues to improve. Over the past several months the feedback from the citizens, youth groups, city council, and city staff remains positive regarding the condition of our parks. We are currently, and will continue to, re-seed and fertilize our parks over the next few months. We must periodically do this to repair any damage that has occurred and also to keep the grass healthy.



## **Recreation**

Now that we have wrapped up our summer programs and the kids have returned to school it is time to look forward to the fall programs. On August 25<sup>th</sup> we began sign-ups for our youth flag football program, and they will continue until September 27<sup>th</sup>. Following the youth flag football season will be youth basketball and shortly after that, youth volleyball. Pinney pool closed for the summer on August 31<sup>st</sup>.



## **Facilities**

The Kerr McGee community center banquet halls and meeting rooms continue to see plenty of action. Just about every weekend the banquet halls are booked with events such as: weddings, wedding receptions, charity events, symposiums, conferences, and so on. The meeting rooms seem to be becoming more and more popular with local groups and organizations. The next major event that will be held at the Kerr McGee center will be the veterans stand down on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The city owned senior citizens building continues to operate in conjunction with Kern County for the senior nutrition program, and for a little fun they hold weekly bingo. Also, for the senior center we have some community development block grant money to make improvements to the facility in the near future.



## **Medians**

Like our youth programs, the summer time is the busiest time of the year for our medians also. As you can see our maintenance crew is hard at work keeping the medians in exceptional condition. We continue to use a two punch approach to maintaining the medians. The first part is a regular regimen of weed killer and the second part is good old fashioned, hands on, manual labor.



## **Wrap up**

In general, the Parks & Recreation department is doing very well and moving along fine. In closing, I would like to talk about one last issue. From time to time I receive an e-mail or phone call regarding the watering of our parks during the day time in the summer. The concern is we are disregarding the water ordinance that prohibits watering between the hours of 8 am and 8 pm. Nothing could be further from the truth. There are certain instances where watering during the day is unavoidable. Some examples of reasons you may see the parks being watered during the day are: our maintenance crew works during the day which means the systems must be tested and sprinklers realigned during the day, after repairs are made the system has to be turned on to make sure the repairs are complete, power surges and power outages can cause the timer system to malfunction, this could cause the sprinklers to activate as well, lastly when we re seed and fertilize we must keep the affected area wet at all times or the seed will simply die off. Often we have a very small window to fertilize, re seed, and repair the grounds due to all of the different activities and groups that use our limited facilities. The parks & recreation department is very sensitive to the water issue in our valley and strictly adheres to the water ordinance.





## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

### West Ridgecrest Boulevard Project

Paving was completed on Monday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>. There remains a full street closure of Ridgecrest Boulevard between China Lake Boulevard and Balsam Avenue. The intersection is tentatively scheduled to be opened on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The road way is open to businesses and patrons but closed to through traffic. Traffic signal foundations have been poured in the Norma Avenue intersection. The foundations for the decorative street lights are being excavated. Additional concrete work remains in this project reach for sidewalks, cross walks, bulb outs and medians. Landscape irrigation and planting will occur after the bulb outs have been constructed. The construction zone speed limit in this reach is 15 mph and will be patrolled and enforced. Motorists are asked to be particularly careful in this reach due to the narrower road way and construction activity. Patrons to businesses will have full time access to driveways with occasional delays due to construction along the frontage of driveways.



The City Manager, Dennis Speer, gets to get out and also be the Public Works Director



Road work right before paving started



New asphalt going being laid on West Ridgecrest Boulevard between Norma Avenue and Balsam



## Federal Safe Routes to School Cycle 3

Construction is near completion on the Safe Routes to School project. Paving was completed on Tuesday, October 23rd on all sites. Concrete sidewalk has been completed at Las Flores Elementary School. Concrete work along Warner Avenue for the Monroe School is scheduled to start later this week.

## South China Lake Boulevard: Upjohn Avenue to Bowman Avenue:

Construction will start on Monday, September 29th. Roadway milling followed by asphalt pulverization and Full Depth Rehabilitation will start Wednesday and Thursday of next week. Traffic will be maintained along the edge of the curb and gutter in the bicycle lane. Left hand turns off of China Lake Boulevard will be restricted. Paving is tentatively scheduled for the week of October 20th.

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.ridgecrest-ca.gov](http://www.ridgecrest-ca.gov)**

## Projects in the Works

The Public Works Department has out to bid right now two projects. One is the City Alley Project, Gateway Boulevard Project, and the Mahan Project that will be opened on September 30, 2014. These projects are TAB funded projects. Also out to bid at this time is the City Corporation Yard and Bus Transit Garage Project. This project is out to bid until October 28, 2014. This project will improve the City Corporation Yard with new storage facilities, a make-over of the current garage, and build a new bus transit garage that is not only being funded by TAB funds but also State Proposition 1B Funds.

## WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT



The City of Ridgecrest Wastewater Treatment Facility operated within design and compliance directives issued under Board Order No. 6-00-56.

The Department inspected and passed (1) new connections to the sanitary sewage system. The Department responded to (13) calls for service, (1) homeowner lateral problem and (12) road construction related issues (Broken M/H Lids, Debris Knocked into M/H, M/H Locates).

The Department as safety compliance repainted the existing safety barriers around the primary clarifiers.

The Department as compliance with SSMP/SSO performed line maintenance on 2,500 ft. of main line collection system.

The Reclamation Department reclaimed 7.09 million gallons of secondary effluent for use as fodder crop irrigation.